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To: Files

Subject: SI and H Experimentation (26 September 1951)

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On 26 September 1951 [redacted] and the writer conducted SI and H experiments using [redacted] as subjects. ([redacted] absent from Washington)

Based on previous work with both [redacted] and the writer felt that every effort should be made to determine whether or not these subjects were in fact being induced into an SI state or were, from time to time, "play acting". With this in mind, it was decided to conduct a series of tests primarily to determine whether or not [redacted] were successfully induced into an SI state or, if not, specifically to what depth of hypnotic control had been obtained in each of their cases.

The first test consisted of a very slow methodical routine relaxing technique in which every effort was made by the writer to place both subjects in as deep a trance state as possible. This test was continued for about 15 minutes. Then the subjects, before awakening, were given the post hypnotic suggestion that if either [redacted] or the writer touched the knot of their tie, they would immediately, after awakening, return into a deep trance state. Both subjects apparently attained, in this test, a deep sleep state appearing very relaxed as far as body posture and facial expression were concerned. They were awakened by the standard 12345 method and shortly thereafter in a general conversation, the writer tested the post hypnotic by touching the knot of his tie. Both subjects responded to this suggestion and immediately dropped into a deep sleep state. They were awakened from this and a brief, general discussion followed.

The next experiment attempted was by [redacted] who again placed both subjects in apparently a deep sleep state. After some simple conversation while in a sleep state, both subjects were told to open their eyes and maintain a normal appearance and carry out certain walking and other type movements in the Operations Room. Both subjects followed these instructions perfectly. Thereafter, [redacted] returned them into a sleep state. At this point and before awakening, the subjects [redacted] gave them the post hypnotic that they would be unable to move one of their feet which would be stuck to the floor where they were then sitting. [redacted] then awakened both subjects by the short 123 method and the post hypnotic was tried. However, the post hypnotic failed to work for

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both [redacted] although in the opinion of [redacted] and the writer, [redacted] were in a deep sleep state when the post hypnotic suggestion was made. This phenomenon cannot be explained at this time.

Since the above tests had failed to determine conclusively whether or not [redacted] had properly reached a very deep trance state, [redacted] returned both subjects to a sleep state by using the previous post hypnotic of touching the knot of his tie. In each case, both subjects complied immediately. Thereafter, [redacted] had [redacted] extend her right arm out on to the center sofa pillow and [redacted] extend her left arm out into the same position. [redacted] then instructed the subjects that their arms were numb and they would be insensible to feelings in their arms or hands. [redacted] then tested this by pinching both subjects' hands and by tapping on both hands with his fingers. When questioned concerning this, both subjects stated that they were unable to feel pain or any touch sensation in their hands or arms. Since this was still not conclusive proof, [redacted] asked the subjects to extend their hands out in a typical rigid catalepsy. Thereafter, he told the subjects that he had a needle, which he had, and he was going to prick their hands to determine whether or not they were able to feel anything. [redacted] then proceeded to prick both subjects' hands on the back and the palm a number of times and with force and neither subject showed any reaction to the prick of the needle at any given time either by arm movement, facial movement, eye movement, body movement, or sound. At the conclusion of this test, [redacted] restored full feeling to each subject's arm and awakened them by the short 123 method.

In the very considerate opinion of [redacted] and the writer, both subjects were without question in a deep trance state during this test and it is believed absolutely physically impossible for the subjects, had they not been in a trance state, to have maintained their arms and hands and facial expressions, etc. when pricked with a needle, particularly with their eyes closed.

While this test indicated that the subjects could, upon occasion, reach a deep trance state, further tests were continued. The writer placed both subjects again in a deep sleep state and attempted again, by using the 1 to 10 counting method, to produce a very deep sleep state in both subjects. Thereafter, the writer attempted to create the hallucination that music was being played in the room, but neither subject was able to "hear" the music. The writer then took a half glass of water and identified it as perfume and asked each subject to smell it and state whether or not they thought the perfume was pleasant. [redacted] identified the water as Chantilly and stated it was very pleasant. [redacted]

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[redacted] smelled the water and identified it as perfume, but went no farther than this. The writer then, in an effort to produce further hallucinations, told [redacted] that they could hear no sounds but the voice of the writer in the room and that nothing would disturb them. At this point, [redacted] clapped his hands loudly a few inches from each subjects' head. This loud hand-clap produced no reaction whatsoever in either subject and since their eyes were closed, both [redacted] and the writer agreed that both subjects were in a deep sleep state. The writer then restored to both subjects a complete sense of hearing. At this point, the writer decided to try a more complex hallucination attempt. The writer told [redacted] that she would remain in a deep sleep state and would hear nothing unless she were addressed directly by name. [redacted] then apparently continued in the deep sleep state at which she was at this time. The writer then instructed [redacted] to open her eyes and to act, walk, and appear perfectly normal, which she would, although remaining in a very deep sleep state. The writer then asked [redacted] if she would care for a highball and stated that he would take one at the same time. [redacted] stated that she would like a highball and the writer proceeded to pour a glass of water from the carafe, take a glass of water himself. [redacted] tasted the water and said it was good but light. The writer asked her if she would like more whisky placed in the highball and [redacted] replied that she would. The writer again went to the carafe and poured more water into the glass and handed the glass to [redacted] who stated that it tasted fine. At about this point, [redacted] apparently either awakened or reached a very light sleep state and began to laugh uproariously and continuously. This laughter apparently distracted [redacted] and she too began laughing; since it was then obvious that the experiment had been upset, the writer returned both subjects to a sleep state and then awakened them by the 12345 method.

Thereafter, the writer and [redacted] had a discussion with the subjects concerning the above incident. From the discussion, it became obvious that [redacted] was in a complete trance state during the entire situation, but she stated that she heard [redacted] laughing in a "faraway manner". [redacted] had only partial memory of the incident and, in the opinion of [redacted] and the writer, was very successfully carrying out her part of the experiment. [redacted] however, stated, when pressed as to why she started laughing, that she had heard all of the experiment with [redacted] and that it struck her humorously because she knew [redacted] was not drinking a highball, but was drinking plain water. She stated that the whole procedure had struck her humorously and she could not help laughing.

To conclude the evenings work and to attempt further to resolve the question of "play acting", [redacted] placed both

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subjects again in a deep sleep state. Thereafter, [REDACTED] instructed [REDACTED] to continue in a sleep state while he told [REDACTED] to open her eyes, act "normal", and proceed into the laboratory room and to seat herself at a desk where she would receive further instructions from the writer who would be at the opposite desk. Immediately thereafter, [REDACTED] carried out these instructions and moved into the laboratory room. When she seated herself at the desk, she talked in a normal manner for a few moments to the writer and then to make certain that she was in a sleep state, the writer returned [REDACTED] into a sleep state, eyes closed, and head resting on the desk. The writer allowed [REDACTED] to remain in that position a few moments, then he again instructed her to open her eyes, talk, carry on a normal conversation, but continue in a deep sleep state. [REDACTED] did this in an exceptionally good manner and for perhaps six or seven minutes, she carried on a clear, intelligent conversation concerning general matters with the writer.

At the conclusion of the conversation, the writer returned [REDACTED] into a deep sleep state and then awakened her by the 12345 method.

In the meantime, [REDACTED] then turned his attention to [REDACTED] and attempted to drive her into a very deep sleep state. He continued this process for a number of minutes, then instructed her to open her eyes, act and appear normal while remaining deep asleep. When [REDACTED] opened her eyes, [REDACTED] asked her if she was deep asleep and [REDACTED] replied that she was not. [REDACTED] told her to close her eyes and go into a deep sleep state which apparently [REDACTED] did and [REDACTED] thereafter immediately awakened [REDACTED] by the short 123 method and [REDACTED] and the writer returned to the operations room.

After some general discussion, both subjects were placed in a sleep state by [REDACTED] who then removed all post hypnotic words, signs, etc. and continued then in the routine protective manner. Both subjects were immediately awakened thereafter and the evenings experiments were concluded.

Comment:

While the tests above are not considered conclusive, [REDACTED] and the writer have come to the following conclusions:

- (A) In the case of [REDACTED], she attains a deep SI very slow, but having once reached that state is a very good subject and maintains the deep trance state continually.

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(B) In the case of [REDACTED] her ability to reach a deep SI state moves in cycles or waves. At one time (as in the anesthetized hand incident and hand clapping incident) she reached, obviously, a very deep SI state while as in the incident of the laughter mentioned above, she either came naturally out of the SI condition or reached such a light state that the activity around her broke her out of the SI condition.

In addition, [REDACTED] and the writer believe that in both subjects there is some tendency toward "play acting" which was particularly noticeable in the early steps with [REDACTED] but gradually disappear as the work progresses and in [REDACTED] the tendency follows her pattern and comes and goes in waves.

Further work is essential with these subjects and is particularly necessary to work experiments in which both [REDACTED] are separated.

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